



Creating Your Own BioBlitz

You're on a Quest!



Do a BioBlitz in your own backyard or neighborhood! Involve your family and friends in this activity. This is a chance for you to go out into your own area and do an inventory of the wildlife species that can be found.

1. Begin by drawing a map of the area you plan to survey. Sketch it roughly to scale.
2. Determine **when** you will be able to go out to take the survey, and **how much area** you can cover in the time you have been allotted. Sketch out the way you will walk through your area. You can do this by forming a grid to cover the space or by just walking a trail.
3. Look in your local library for field guides. Review the species that you think may be in your area. The local parks department, recreation department, or agricultural extension agent may have a local species list. You may also be able to find them listed on the Internet by the parks department for your state.
4. Begin the survey. Take your map and field guides, if possible. Write down all of the species you see.



If you are unsure about the identification of any species, take a picture of it, or sketch it carefully. Be sure to record any markings or distinguishing features. Also, mark on the map where you found it. Then take the picture of the "unknown" species to your local agricultural extension agent, park naturalist, or high-school biology teacher. These professionals can help you with your identification.

5. Share your master list with the local conservation commission, park ranger, land trust or county extension agent. Plan for a later time to survey the area again to see how things have changed through the seasons. See how many species you can add to your list!

**QUEST: Investigating Our World is a regional public television series
seen on Maine Public Broadcasting Network, Vermont Public Television, and New Hampshire Public Television**



Major funding for Quest is provided by the National Science Foundation. Additional support is provided by Irving Woodlands, by gifts to More Connected, More Maine. The Campaign for Maine Public Broadcasting Network's Programming, and Desiree Carlson, M.D.

